

## PROF. A. J. THACKSTON

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE ORANGEBURG CITY SCHOOL.

Tribute Paid Distinguished Educator by Mr. W. B. Thompson in South School News.

The following deserved tribute to Prof. A. J. Thackston, the efficient superintendent of the Orangeburg city schools, from the pen of Mr. W. B. Thompson, of this city, appeared in the current number of the Southern School News published in Columbia.

The subject of this sketch was born about the year 1870, in Laurens county, South Carolina. He is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, his father and mother both being descendants of this sturdy and patriotic people. His father was E. R. Thackston; his mother, before marriage, Miss Anna Brown.

Good schools were not so numerous thirty years ago as they are now, but the father of young Thackston was determined that his children should attend the best schools within his reach. With this object in view he removed his family in 1881 to Reidville, Spartanburg county, and placed his children in the well-known Reidville High School, under the direction of Rev. B. P. Reid. Mr. Reid was at that time a most successful teacher and moulder of character. Few young men remained in his school any length of time without showing in after life the results of the moral training received from him.

From Reidville Mr. Thackston entered Furman University, Greenville, S. C., in 1890. His summer vacations were spent in teaching in the public schools of the State. He was graduated from Furman in 1893, and a short time afterward he was elected principal of the public school at Springfield, in Orangeburg county.

Here he manifested great zeal in the interest of the local school. He put his whole heart into the work and splendid results followed. A special tax was levied by the taxpayers for school purposes; the school term was lengthened, and a system of graded schools organized.

In 1895 he married Miss Lillian Phillips of Springfield. From this union their home has been blessed with two bright boys.

Mr. Thackston remained at Springfield until 1896, when he was elected to the position of instructor in Latin and Greek at the Orangeburg Collegiate Institute, Orangeburg, S. C. His strong personality and his ability as an instructor at once attracted the attention of the board of trustees of the public schools of Orangeburg, and the following year they elected him superintendent of these schools. This position he has held to the present time and continues to hold to the satisfaction of the board of trustees and the patrons of the schools.

During the time that Mr. Thackston has been at the head of the Orangeburg schools he has seen the enrollment increase to such an extent that a number of additional teachers had to be employed, and it became necessary to erect a new school building. This building was provided promptly by the taxpayers of the district. Mr. Thackston is respected and loved by his pupils. He is a firm but just disciplinarian. He has great sympathy for a pupil naturally dull, and to all such he extends encouragement and a helping hand, but the boy who is persistently idle or vicious finds in his presence but little comfort. Mr. Thackston is much pleased, and we think properly so, by the high stand taken by his pupils at Clemson, Winthrop, and all other colleges which they attend.

He is now in the prime of life, capable of doing a large amount of work, both physical and mental, and notwithstanding the exacting duties demanded of him by his school, he finds time to be of service to the community in a social and business way. He belongs to several fraternal orders, and is now serving Shiloh lodge, A. F. M., the second year as master. He is a member of Eureka chapter, R. A. M., of this city, and in recognition of his services to the chapter was recently elected to the office of scribe. He is also active in business, being a director in the People's bank, one of the leading financial institutions of this city. He was, in 1903, an active member of the National Educational association.

Mr. Thackston's prominence as an educator was recognized in 1904 by his appointment as a member of the State board of education, which position he still holds, having been re-appointed at the expiration of his term in 1908. In this capacity he has taken a prominent part in all movements looking to the improvement of the public school system of South Carolina as a whole.

## Sad Death of a Lad.

Hasel, the eight-year-old little son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Robinson of the Jamison section, passed away at the family home on Tuesday morning after a few hours illness from acute indigestion. Monday afternoon the little fellow was taken with a fever, which was followed by acute indigestion. It is hard to give these little ones up, but we have the consolation of the assurance that they are safe in Savior's arms. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have the sympathy of many friends in their sad bereavement.

## Wealth a Menace.

A great many more young men and women are sent upon the road to ruin by money than by poverty. As a rule the devil wants no better chance at boys and girls than to have their pockets filled with cash and then sit down at some fashionable resort. Rest is all right; revelry is all wrong.

## "THE SINS OF THE FATHER."

Interested Facts About Thomas Dixon's New Play.

Thomas Dixon, author of "The Clansman," has written a new play, "The Sins of the Father," which will be presented under the direction of George H. Brennan at the Academy of Music on Monday night.

In many respects this drama is even more remarkable than "The Clansman," marking an epoch in the dramatic treatment of the race problem.

In "The Sins of the Father" Thomas Dixon presents the ruin that threatened to overwhelm a Southern household from the mixture of races. A beautiful young girl, ward of Major Daniel Morton, fiancée of his son Harry, is suspected of being a "sixteenth-blood" negress. Upon the boy and girl lovers the imputation falls as a crushing blow. The girl's soul revolts at the awful disclosure, but when the Major sets the case plainly before her she sacrifices her own happiness to save her lover's.

But the boy refuses to believe the story despite the strong evidence that supports it. He defies his father and prepares to marry Helen. The Major's position is a terrible one. As the leader of the white forces, he has won a strenuous State campaign for negro disfranchisement. He returns to find negroid mongrelism triumphant in his own home. Major Norton is a sort of modern Virgilus. He loves his son, has always cared for and protected his ward, but there seems to be no outcome of the awful situation except in a tragedy.

Out of the interplay of these three characters—father, son and hapless girl—Mr. Dixon has fashioned a tremendous dramatic struggle, as vital and elemental as those of the Greeks or of the masters Plinero and Ibsen. The denouement is as unexpected as the complications are startling. A logical, satisfying solution of the riddle is found. And—relieving the Southern life, the fun and love affairs of the humbler folk, the thieving, capering Andy and the joyful, overwhelming Minerva.

"The Sins of the Father" will be played here by a company of actors all of whom are metropolitan favorites and including William Owen, Ruth Fielding, Earl Lee, Wilbur Mason, Agnes Earle, Cecilia Clay and Edna Davis.

## "Buster Brown."

"Buster Brown," which comes to the Academy of Music tomorrow night is a show for the masses. The scenes of this famous American musical entertainment has been so constructed that its allurements will capture all, whatever their age or condition. From the school boy to the blase first-nighter, all who care for wholesome fun furnished by those universal favorites Buster, Tig, Mary Jane and all of Buster's merry relatives, each being cleverly impersonated by stage celebrities. The performance of Master Harold and Alfred Grady in the leading roles never lacks variety or approaches dullness. They have an originality and manner quite their own, and the whole show moves with the proper dash and swing. In fact, "Buster Brown" is a name to conjure with and when he arrives, funmaking reigns supreme.

## Teachers Meet Saturday.

The regular monthly meeting of the Orangeburg Teachers' Association will be held at the court house on next Saturday, January 28, the session being called to order at 11:15 a. m. Prof. W. L. Motes, T. E. Dukes, J. H. Riser and Miss M. L. Bryant will have charge of the programme and will read papers on and discuss the present school books.

Dr. C. F. Williams of Columbia is expected to be present and address the association on "School Hygiene." Special attention will be given to the boys' corn club work and also methods to encourage the children to pay more attention to the study of South Carolina history and geography.

This will be an important meeting, and it is desired by President C. J. Rast that all the teachers and friends of education be present.

## Must Be Vaccinated.

The Board of Health and the City Council held a joint meeting on Monday evening, and after going over the health situation, it was concluded that the easiest and best way to stamp out the small pox was for all those who needed it to be vaccinated. So it was ordered that the law providing for compulsory vaccination should be enforced in this city. The official notice to that effect will be found in another column.

## School Entertainment.

There will be given at Poplar Springs school house on Friday night, the 27th inst., an entertainment by the faculty and students. A nice program has been arranged, consisting of music, reading and recitations. The public generally is invited. The exercises will begin at half past seven o'clock. Admission, ten cents.

## Dangers of Electricity.

At Birmingham, Ala., H. W. Briggs, an engineer, and Jacob Green, his negro fireman, were instantly killed at 21st street and Avenue G by electricity. While operating a concrete mixer a live wire struck the engine and in some way charged the machinery in such a manner that both met instant death. The wire itself did not touch them.

## Judge Copes Elected.

Probate Judge R. E. Copes was elected Judge of this Circuit to succeed the late lamented Judge C. G. Dantzer by the legislature yesterday on the first ballot. Judge Copes is in every way qualified for the high position to which he has been called. He will make a model judge.

## FIRE BUG'S WORK

MESSRS. JENNINGS &amp; SMOAK VICTIMS OF INCENDIARY.

Their Large Warehouse, Together With the Goods It Contained, Completely Destroyed.

In the last week Orangeburg has been visited by three fires, two of which being the most destructive that has occurred here in years. First, on last Thursday afternoon, the cotton warehouse of Mr. John Cart, with nearly one thousand bales of cotton in it, was burned. Then early Monday morning the residence of Mrs. T. E. Stokes, on Church street, was partially destroyed before it could be extinguished by the efficient fire department.

Then followed the complete destruction of the large and commodious warehouse of Messrs. Jennings & Smoak, together with its large stock of goods on Tuesday night. The fire was discovered about half-past twelve o'clock by people living in the neighborhood, and the alarm was at once sent in. When discovered, the fire had already made considerable headway, and very little could be done to save the warehouse or its contents.

The warehouse was located on Sellers Avenue at the end of Elliott street, and was owned by Dr. W. S. Barton. It was built some years ago and was used one year as a tobacco warehouse. It was a substantially built house, and was insured for \$2,000, which is hardly a third of its value. Messrs. Jennings & Smoak were insured to some extent, but they will lose several thousand dollars, besides their temporary disarrangement of business.

Near the warehouse was a smaller wooden building, in which cotton seed were stored. This building was not burned, but efforts had been made to set it on fire by some one. One of the doors had been forced open enough for a man to put his hand in, and right near the door on the inside, was some charred pieces of lightwood and other combustibles, showing that a fire had been set, but had gone out. At another door similar evidences of an effort to set the building were plainly evident.

The same fire bug who attempted to set fire to the small building, set fire to the large warehouse. The warehouse must have been set in several places, as those who first saw the fire, says it seemed to envelop the whole building at once. Why any one should wish to burn out Messrs. Jennings & Smoak is a mystery. They have no enemies that they know of. The warehouse may have been robbed and then set on fire, but this is hardly probable.

These several fires have given our gallant firemen a strenuous time, but they met the fire fiend like old veterans, and conquered it. Those of us who remained in bed, can hardly realize the hardships to which the firemen were subjected in having to meet in quick succession these three fires. They did fine work, and they are entitled to the thanks of the entire community. No fire department could have done any better work than our brave firemen have done in the last week.

## Happily Married.

The Nashville Tennessean says at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Xavier B. Haynie, in Gallatin, Tenn., the marriage of their daughter, Miss Lucy Virginia Van Horn Haynie, to Lieut. Stafford Doyle, U. S. N., was beautifully solemnized at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Father Barron of Annapolis officiated in the presence of 150 guests who were restricted to the relatives and a limited number of intimate friends. The Haynie home, which is one of the most attractive in Sumner county, was profusely decorated with palms and Jackson vines and many beautiful flowers.

## Livingston Notes.

Mrs. M. P. Hutto of Charleston is spending some time here with relatives.

Mrs. J. E. Brown has returned home after a week's stay with Mrs. C. P. Reed.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Tunis Jeffcoat was buried at old Hebron cemetery last Saturday afternoon after an illness of only a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Burnette of Swansea have recently purchased and moved in the Poi house, we are glad to welcome them back in our midst.

There will be a League social at the home of Mr. Barto Pou on next Friday night.

## Annual Band Meeting.

The Orangeburg Military Band held its annual meeting at the band hall on Monday night, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

O. W. Spahr, President.  
G. A. Schiffer, Jr., Secretary and Treasurer.

O. K. Wilson, Manager and Director.

Means were discussed for increasing the efficiency of the band, and members were urged to be more punctual at the meetings and devote themselves more earnestly to their respective duties.

## Family Reunion.

The News says Mr. and Mrs. J. Lathrop and Mr. Whitman Lathrop, all of New York State, are in this city on a visit at the home of their brother, Mr. A. Lathrop. Within the next few days, Mr. Lathrop expects his brother, Mr. Howard Lathrop, together with his wife, from Kansas. They will spend a few days in the city, after which they, in company with Mr. and Mrs. J. Lathrop, will go to Florida.

## CHANGE OF SCHEDULE.

The Southern Makes Changes in Its Train Service.

Beginning with Monday the Southern Railway will operate through local trains between Charleston and Augusta. Passengers on day coaches will hereafter not be required to make the obnoxious change at Branchville if they have Augusta as their destination. A number of other important changes in the schedules of trains of the Southern Railway went into effect Monday.

The following changes, effective last Monday, have been announced by Division Passenger Agent W. E. McGee, of the Southern, with headquarters in Charleston:

Train No. 13, between Charleston and Columbia, leaves Charleston at 7 a. m., leaves Summerville at 7:40 a. m., leaves Branchville at 9:20 a. m., leaves Orangeburg at 10 a. m., arriving at Columbia at 11:40 a. m.

Train No. 35, between Charleston and Augusta, leaves Charleston at 8 a. m., leaves Summerville at 8:44 a. m., leaves Branchville at 10:40 a. m., arrives at Augusta at 1:40 p. m.

Train No. 14, between Columbia and Charleston, leaves Columbia at 3:15 p. m., leaves Orangeburg at 5:10 p. m., leaves Branchville at 5:55 p. m., leaves Summerville at 7:25 p. m., arrive at Charleston at 8:10 p. m.

Train No. 22, between Augusta and Charleston, leaves Augusta at 3:45 p. m., leaves Branchville at 7:05 p. m., leaves Summerville at 8:35 p. m., arrives at Charleston at 9:15 p. m.

Train No. 8, Carolina Special, between Cincinnati and Charleston, leaves Knoxville at 4:55 a. m., leaves Cincinnati at 6:30 p. m., leaves Asheville at 10:25 a. m., leaves Spartanburg at 1:45 p. m., leaves Columbia at 4:45 p. m., leaves Orangeburg at 6:15 p. m., leaves Summerville at 8:05 p. m., arrives at Charleston at 8:45 p. m.

## LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining Unclaimed in Orangeburg

Postoffice Week Ending Jan. 24.

Persons calling for same will please say that they are "advertised."

Wm. Ancrum, Susie Barnes, Eugene Bellenger, Amper Bradley, Eugene Braker, David Brown, Luther H. Chamberlain, M. D. Cleckley, Peter Covert, Alonzo Damon, T. H. DeLaney, Isaac Dowling, Maggie Ferguson, Hilliard Graves, Rev. John H. Graves, Annie Hampton, Anna Hucker, William Jackson, Rudolph James, Lula Jamison, Lillie Jamison, Lucile Jenkins, Mrs. Sallie Jenkins, Meade Jones, Month Leveston, Sula McMillan, D. E. McElister, S. W. Mack, H. B. Major, F. Marcus, G. W. Morgan, Christena Nimmons, Nelson Peterson, Willie Richardson, S. D. Rhodes, Mrs. Archie Sallee, James R. Streater, Isiah Summers, Willie Summers, Mrs. A. J. Summers, Wm. A. Utsey, Wade Whitaker, Joseph Whitmore.

A. D. Webster, P. M.

## Death of Mrs. Sallie J. Shuler.

On January 16th Mrs. Sallie J. Shuler passed on to that better land where loved ones had gone to await her coming. She had been sick for a long while, but through it all she bore it patiently and with the spirit that becomes a true Christian.

From her youth she has been one of those never-tiring church workers, always ready to lend a hand, one who seemed to be anxiously looking for an opportunity of doing good. She nursed the sick far and near and was ready to send or be sent. Hers was a glorious work and she was faithful unto the end. It could rightly be said of her that she loved her neighbors as herself. She was a devoted wife and an affectionate mother and will be missed by all who knew her.

## Will Return to Circus.

Lizzie Cain, the young colored woman who is visiting her parents, has announced that she would return to the circus and continue in the occupation she had known and followed all her life. She says she could hardly be content to settle down to a quiet country life now after the exciting circus life she had led so long, and that she is under a contract with the managers of the show to remain with them for at least another season, and this contract she must keep. She has received letters from Mrs. Robinson since she arrived in Orangeburg.

## Had His Gun With Him.

Daniel Fields, a negro, came very near being killed by a train on the Atlantic Coast Line Railway late Monday afternoon. He was helplessly drunk and laying across the track in the suburbs when a train came along and before it could be stopped it bumped Fields a little. He was not hurt, and was turned over to an officer who locked him up. Notwithstanding his drunken, helpless condition he had in his pocket a fierce-looking forty-eight calibre pistol.

## Robbed a Grave.

It is reported from Winston-Salem, N. C., that the grave of John Harrold, a follower of George Washington in the revolutionary war, has been opened and it is thought that \$500 in gold hidden there a hundred years ago were taken. It is said that the savings of the pioneer settler were hidden by his widow in the grave, but no one had ventured to investigate.

## Many Are Killed.

Many passengers were killed or injured when a passenger train collided with a coal train at Hopkinsville, Wales, three of the coaches being telescoped. Soldiers recovered the bodies of eight men and three children. Those on the train included several miners who were on their way to London for a conference with mine owners.

## LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

PICKED UP ALL OVER TOWN BY OUR REPORTERS.

What Is Happening Here and There. Local Items of Personal Interest to Our Readers.

Mr. Iverson Mims has left Ellore to go in the hardware business at St. George.

The people should all be vaccinated and thus remove all danger of small pox spreading.

Orders will be taken at Sims Book Store for Gen. Hagood's Memoirs. They are sold for \$3.00 delivered.

It is announced that Gov. Bleas will address the negro race conference now in session in this city this evening.

According to the weather bureau now the temperature will rise, and for the balance of the week it will be warmer.

Orangeburg has no room for a fire bug, and if there is one here, the quicker he is caught and his neck broken the better.

There will be a benefit at the Cosy Theatre on Friday afternoon and night for the Juvenile Missionary Society of St. Paul's church.

Carnivals and Gypsies scatter small pox and other diseases wherever they go. We wish they would stay away from Orangeburg.

We congratulate Judge Copes on his elevation to the Circuit Bench. He is a worthy successor to the late lamented Judge C. G. Dantzer.

Words may count with strangers or even with neighbors but with our children, who see us live, they stand for naught. They judge us by our acts.

Messrs. Dukes & Rhoads will open up a marble yard in this city soon. It will fill a long felt want, and we wish them success in the new venture.

An oyster supper will be given at the residence of Mr. A. C. Smith on Friday evening for the benefit of Midway school. All are invited to attend.

The health officers have the small pox situation well in hand, and the disease is not likely to spread from the few who now have it in and near this city.

We suppose a primary will be ordered to fill the office of Special Referee and Probate Judge made vacant by the election to the Circuit Bench of Mr. Copes.

About one-half of the cotton that was stored in Mr. Cart's warehouse when it was burned will be saved. It will have to be picked over and rebaled before it is marketed.

Prof. Webber has resigned as superintendent of the Ellore graded school, and a dispatch says the people there are very much grieved over his going. Prof. Webber is a fine young man as well as a good teacher.

Messrs. Fairley & Weeks lost a quantity of bagging and ties that were stored in a shed near the warehouse of Messrs. Jennings & Smoak that was burned Monday night. As they had no insurance it was a total loss.

Major A. C. Dibble announces himself as a candidate for Special Referee and Probate Judge to succeed Judge Copes. Major Dibble filled this position some years ago, and was considered one of the best Special Referees in the State.

If we are unstable and deceitful our children know it and despise us. If we are cruel and critical, our children know it and fear us. If we are tender and honest, our children know it and love us. If we are wise and noble hearted, our children know it and worship us.

There is no danger of contracting the small pox by visiting this city. Only one case is in the city and that was contracted at the Gypsy camp. The house where this case exists, is quarantined. No one is allowed to come from it or visit it, except the attending physician. It is a light case, and no serious consequences are anticipated from it.

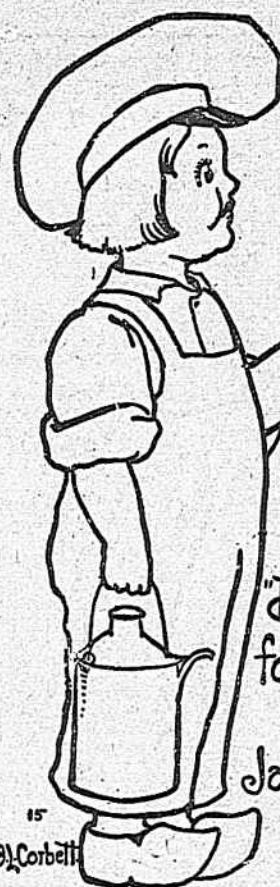
A dispatch from Ellore says: "Dr. John A. Brunson, who was operated on at the Knowlton Infirmary last week, is doing quite well. Dr. Brunson is now the pastor of the St. Matthews' Baptist church. His wife is a practicing physician, of unusual skill and intellect, and it is due in large measure to her prompt diagnosis and decision that his life was saved."

## Creatore's Band.

Before an audience of 3000 people, Creatore made his bow to Richmond on Monday night and was accorded such a reception as no musician has ever before received in that city. He caught his audience with the very first number on the program and at the conclusion of the grand selection from Carmen, he brought the entire audience to its feet and they not only applauded him but cheered him most enthusiastically. He was compelled to come back three times and bow his acknowledgments after the final number. Here Tuesday afternoon, matinee only.

## Will Serve His Time.

A dispatch from Columbia says John J. Jones of Orangeburg county, is coming to the penitentiary to serve his sentence of ten years and one month—or that part of it the State is permitted to claim—for the killing of Abe Pearlstone, at Branchville, in December. The defence Monday abandoned the appeal to the Supreme Court. It was announced last week that Jones' counsel would apply for bail at Columbia Monday, pending the appeal, so that the abandoning of the appeal created some surprise.



Dear Friend:

It don't make any difference what kind of oil you want, whether it is coal oil or olive oil or vinegar or syrup or molasses or flavoring extract. You can get it add get it good in this town. Kerisene Oil 10 cents a gallon Olive Oil 25 cents a bottle Vinegar 30 cents a gallon Molasses 60 cents a gallon Syrup 50 cents a gallon Grape Juice 25 cents a bottle Maple Syrup 25 cents a bottle Your Friend,

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